
U.S. Department of the Interior • U.S. Geological Survey

MINERAL INDUSTRY SURVEYS

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LIME IN JULY 1996

Lime producers, operating 108 plants, sold or used about 1.62 million metric tons in July, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. This was 3% above the monthly average for the last 12 months. Lime sold by producers was about 1.47 million tons; this 5% above the monthly average for the last 12 months. Captive lime used by 21 producers was about 152,000 tons, or 13% below the monthly average for the last 12 months.

Lime sold in July for construction uses, including soil stabilization, totaled about 153,000 tons. Sales of refractory dead-burned dolomite were about 24,000 tons. Sales of lime for environmental uses totaled about 440,000 tons. Sales to the steel-or-iron-related markets were about 403,000 tons and sales for other chemical and industrial uses totaled about 447,000 tons.

Principal lime-producing States in July 1996, in descending order, were Ohio, Alabama, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Virginia. These States accounted for 40% of the total output. Kentucky, Illinois, and Missouri were also significant producers, but specific figures were withheld to protect company proprietary data. June exports to five countries were 4,260 tons.

Industry news—Martin Marietta Magnesia Specialties, Inc.,

Woodville, OH, completed phase I of its capacity expansion in the second quarter 1996. The company produces dolomitic lime for captive use at the company's magnesia plant in Mainstee, MI, and sells to steel and related markets. Phase I increase d plant capacity to 700,000 tons (775,000 short tons), and Phase II, which is planned for 1997, will increase capacity to 770,000 tons (850,000 short tons).¹

Global Stone Corp., through its subsidiary Chemstone Corp., purchased the principal assets of the high-calcium limestone operation of Redland Genstar, Inc., located near Middletown, VA. The limestone operation produces approximately 318,000 tons (350,000 short tons) per year of high-purity limestone products. The Redland Genstar facility is adjacent to Chemstone's and will be merged with the Chemstone operations immediately.²

¹Chemical Marketing Reporter. Martin Marietta Expands. V.249, No.26, p.7. Martin Marietta Magnesia Specialties, Inc. Private communication, Aug. 22, 1996.

²Global Stone Corp. News release, Aug. 29, 1996.

TABLE 1
LIME SOLD BY PRODUCERS IN THE UNITED STATES, BY USE 1/

(Metric tons unless otherwise noted) 2/

Use	July 1996	June 1996	7 Months 1996 3/	7 Months 1995 3/
Quicklime:				
Construction:				
Soil stabilization	35,500	35,500	253,000	200,000
General construction	22,300	22,100	82,500	51,000
Total	57,800	57,600	335,000	251,000
Refractory dolomite	24,000	13,400	100,000	105,000
Environmental	372,000	377,000	2,400,000	1,970,000
Steel, iron related	401,000	395,000 r/	2,730,000	2,750,000
Other chemical and industrial	399,000	394,000	2,840,000	2,960,000
Total quicklime	1,250,000	1,240,000	8,400,000	8,040,000
Hydrate:				
Construction:				
Soil stabilization	39,200	38,000	256,000	259,000
General construction	55,700	54,400	314,000	306,000
Total	94,800	92,500	570,000	565,000
Environmental	68,500	65,400 r/	465,000	434,000
Steel, iron related	1,580	1,580	11,500	24,900
Other chemical and industrial	48,500	42,300 r/	292,000	327,000
Total hydrate	213,000	202,000	1,340,000	1,350,000
Total construction sales	153,000	150,000	906,000	815,000
Total refractory sales	24,000	13,400	100,000	105,000
Total environmental sales	440,000	442,000	2,860,000	2,410,000
Total steel, iron related sales	403,000	397,000	2,740,000	2,770,000
Total chemical and industrial sales	447,000	436,000 r/	3,140,000	3,290,000
Total sales of lime	1,470,000	1,440,000	9,740,000	9,390,000

r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ To convert metric tons to short tons, multiply metric tons by 1.10231.

3/ May include revisions to prior months' data.

TABLE 2
CAPTIVE LIME USED BY PRODUCERS IN THE UNITED STATES, BY TYPE 1/

(Metric tons unless otherwise noted) 2/

Use	July 1996	June 1996	7 Months 1996 3/	7 Months 1995 3/
Quicklime 4/	139,000	144,000 r/	1,060,000	1,180,000
Hydrate	2,300	2,370 r/	17,200	27,400
Refractory dolomite	10,200	9,700	75,000	87,800
Total	152,000	156,000	1,160,000	1,290,000

r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ To convert metric tons to short tons, multiply metric tons by 1.10231.

3/ May include revisions to prior months' data.

4/ Excludes refractory dolomite.

TABLE 3
LIME IMPORTED FOR CONSUMPTION IN JUNE 1/ 2/

(Metric tons) 3/

Country of origin	Quicklime	Hydrate	Hydraulic	Total	Year to date
Canada	10,600	2,300	3,120	16,000	95,300
Mexico	2,880	260	348	3,490	24,200
Other	--	--	--	--	72
Total	13,500	2,560	3,470	19,500	120,000

1/ Trade statistics are reported for the month previous to that of domestic statistics because of a Department of Commerce effort to improve accuracy by providing an additional 14 days handling.

2/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

3/ To convert metric tons to short tons, multiply metric tons by 1.10231.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 4
LIME SOLD OR USED BY PRODUCERS IN THE UNITED STATES, BY STATE 1/

(Metric tons) 2/

State or territory	July 1996	June 1996	7 Months 1996 3/	7 Months 1995 3/
Alabama	154,000	157,000	1,030,000	996,000
Idaho, Oregon, and Washington	53,200	48,100	377,000	421,000
Illinois, Indiana, and Iowa	129,000	124,000	928,000	1,060,000
Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia	202,000	214,000	1,490,000	1,350,000
Michigan	45,700	47,400	346,000	368,000
Ohio	176,000	167,000 r/	1,170,000	1,120,000
Pennsylvania	126,000	123,000	891,000	913,000
Texas	119,000	119,000	841,000	819,000
Virginia	66,300	61,700	429,000	439,000
Wisconsin	46,900	48,300	321,000	328,000
Other 4/	501,000	486,000	3,070,000	2,870,000
Total	1,620,000	1,590,000 r/	10,900,000	10,700,000

r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ To convert metric tons to short tons, multiply metric tons by 1.10231.

3/ May include revisions to prior months' data.

4/ Includes Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming.

TABLE 5
LIME IN THE UNITED STATES 1/ 2/

(Thousand metric tons) 3/

Period	Consumption 4/	Sold or used	Imports 5/	Exports 5/
1995:				
July	1,530	1,510	28	7
August	1,610	1,580	35	7
September	1,570	1,540	35	6
October	1,640	1,620	29	6
November	1,640	1,620	23	4
December	1,590	1,570	18	4
1996:				
January	1,590	1,570	28	3
February	1,490	1,470	21	4
March	1,540	1,530	18	9
April	1,560	1,550	15	3
May	1,580	1,570	17	5
June	1,610	1,590 r/	19	4
July	NA	1,620	NA	NA

r/ Revised. NA Not available.

1/ Inventories may be estimated as 60% of monthly consumption.

2/ Data are rounded to three significant digits.

3/ To convert metric tons to short tons, multiply metric tons by 1.10231.

4/ Consumption includes sold or used plus imports minus exports, and includes Puerto Rico.

5/ Source: Bureau of the Census.